Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for authorizing a command from a user received at [in] a network device separate and distinct from an Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting (AAA) server, the method including:

        establishing a RADIUS session with the user;

        receiving a user profile for the user at the network device from a ~~an Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting~~ (AAA) server, the [said] user profile containing information regarding which commands the user is authorized to execute, the information including a command set described by regular expressions;

        storing the ~~said~~ user profile in a memory accessible by the network device;

        receiving the command from the user;

        determining whether the command is authorized based on the [said] information in the [said] user profile stored in the ~~said~~ memory; and

        authorizing or rejecting the command in response to ~~based on the results of~~ said determining.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network device is a Network Access Server (NAS).

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further including purging said user profile from said memory when said RADIUS session is terminated.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said determining includes comparing said command to a command set contained in said user profile and said authorizing includes authorizing the command if it is contained in said command set.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said command set is a list of previously authorized commands.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said command set is described by regular expressions.

7.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus for authorizing a command from a user received at [in] a network device separate and distinct from an Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting (AAA) server, the apparatus including:

  a RADIUS session initiator;

  a user profile receiver coupled to said RADIUS session initiator and coupled to a AAA server;

  a memory;

  a user profile storer coupled to said user profile receiver and said memory;

  a command receiver;

  an authorized command determiner coupled to said command receiver and to said memory; and

  a command authorizer coupled to said authorized command determiner.

8.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the network device is a Network Access Server (NAS).

9.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, further including a user profile purger coupled to said memory.

10.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said authorized command determiner includes a command set comparer coupled to said memory and wherein said memory includes a user profile having a command set.

11.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said command set is a list of previously authorized commands.

12.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said command set is described by regular expressions.

13.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus for authorizing a command from a user received at [in] a network device separate and distinct from an Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting (AAA) server, the method including:

        means for establishing a RADIUS session with the user;

        means for receiving a user profile for the user at the network device from a an Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting (AAA) server, the [said] user profile containing information regarding which commands the user is authorized to execute, the information including a command set described by regular expressions;

means for storing the ~~said~~ user profile in a memory <u>accessible by the network device</u>;

means for receiving the command from the user;

means for determining whether the command is authorized based on <u>the</u> [said]

information in <u>the</u> [said] user profile stored in <u>the</u> ~~said~~ memory; and

means for authorizing or rejecting the command <u>in response to</u> ~~based on the results of~~

said determining.

14.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the network device is a Network Access Server (NAS).

15.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, further including means for purging said user profile from said memory when said RADIUS session is terminated.

16.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said means for determining includes means for comparing said command to a command set contained in said user profile and said means for authorizing includes means for authorizing the command if it is contained in said command set.

17.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said command set is a list of authorized commands.

18.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said command set is described by regular expressions.

19.   (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly

embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for

authorizing a command from a user received at [in] a network device separate and distinct from

an Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting (AAA) server, the method including:

establishing a RADIUS session with the user;

receiving a user profile for the user at the network device from a an Authentication,

Authorization, and Accounting (AAA) server, the [said] user profile containing information

regarding which commands the user is authorized to execute, the information including a

command set described by regular expressions;

storing the said user profile in a memory accessible by the network device;

receiving the command from the user;

determining whether the command is authorized based on the [said] information in the

[said] user profile stored in the said memory; and

authorizing or rejecting the command in response to based on the results of said

determining.